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# GATEWAY IN TRADE FEAR

By Oliver Evans

**HIGH street chain Next will leave Banbury town centre in four years if an out-of-town retail park is approved today, the store has confirmed.**

But a council report says the Banbury Gateway plan – which could also include a Marks & Spencer – should not be granted by councillors.

It says the plan would have a “significant impact” on town trade.

There is a “high probability” that Castle Quay’s M&S would also close if the scheme, by Junction 11 of the M40, was approved, the report said.

The park is planned on the Acorn Way site of motorsport firm Prodrive, which would move to the nearby former Hella lighting factory.

The ten retail units and three restaurant and cafe buildings could create about 340 jobs.

Planning consultant Clem Constantine told the council that Next’s lease on its Castle Quay store expires in March 2016.

He said: “If planning is granted for the Banbury Gateway development, my client would be willing to commit to the town centre until their lease expiry.”

But M&S said it was “committed” to its “profitable” Castle Quay store and would “complement” the retail park, which would open in 2014.

Castle Quay manager Paul Jackson said the centre would be “greatly disappointed” to lose Next.

He said: “It is our fear that Next would be one of many retailers to pull out of the town centre, which potentially could be devastating for the vitality of the town.”

The Cherwell District Council report says the retail park design is “not of high quality” and should be used for non-retail employment.

And a study said it could threaten council plans to redevelop the Bolton Road area, to include a supermarket.

Prodrive – which employs 398 people – would only move if planning permission is given to the Gateway scheme.

Chairman David Richards said councillors should consider the “positive impact our plans would have on the local economy”.

He said it would create an “important

gateway, attracting additional people to the town centre”. Banbury Town Council backed the plan for a “flagship shopping park” with “prime access” to the M40.

● A council report also recommends councillors approve plans for six warehouses in nearby Overthorpe Road, creating 1,000 jobs.

The town council said Banbury needed a more diverse mix of jobs and the roads could not cope with extra lorries.

It warned it would “destroy Banbury’s last possible access point” for a relief road around the east of the town from Hennef Way to Bloxham Road.

But the district council report said it would “secure a considerable number of jobs”.

The planning committee meets at 2pm.



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**InBRIEF****Family's life-saving donation**

■ ANOTHER secondary school is to get a life-saving defibrillator in memory of a 21-year-old who died from an undiagnosed heart condition. The family of James Bott will this week donate the device to Blessed George Napier Catholic School, Banbury. The town's

North Oxfordshire Academy and Banbury School have already been given the machines and there are plans to donate one to Bloxham's Warriner School. The Banbury resident died in his sleep in 2010 from an undiagnosed heart arrhythmia.

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# MP's demand for local post office

## ■ 'Modernisation' plans spark new hope

By Oliver Evans

AN axed post office in Banbury should be reopened under much heralded Government "modernisation" plans, an MP has said.

Local MP Tony Baldry said the 2008 closure of the Grimsbury branch, in Middleton Road, had caused "considerable hardship".

He wrote to a Post Office chief: "Whilst as the crow flies, the nearest point of Grimsbury to the Banbury Crown Post Office is about a mile, my constituents are not crows! And they don't fly!"

The Conservative has written to Post Office chief executive officer Paula Vennells after being told about "modernisation" plans.

The Post Office this month pledged £1.34bn to open 50 new branches, halt closures and refurbish existing counters.

Mr Baldry said: "The decision to close the sub-post office in Grimsbury has caused considerable inconvenience, indeed hardship, to many of my constituents."

Bosses should look at opening a branch in an existing shop, he said.

The branch closed in June 2008 along with counters in Begbroke; Abingdon; Fyfield; Orchard Way in Banbury and Bicester. The Post Office declined to comment.



Banbury MP Tony Baldry

## InCOURT

REPORTING from Banbury Magistrates' Court:

■ **Ramond Varney**, 42, of George Street, Banbury, admitted shoplifting two bottles of spirits, valued at £39, from Marks & Spencer, Banbury, on November 26, shoplifting four bottles of spirits, valued at £85.48, from Marks & Spencer, Banbury, on November 27, attempting to shoplift four bottles of spirits, valued at £82, from Marks & Spencer, Banbury, and going equipped for theft on November 28. Given a 12-month conditional discharge and told to pay £124 compensation.

■ **Leon Caton**, 20, of West Barr Street, Banbury, admitted criminally damaging a door, valued at £120, and displaying writing, a sign or some other visible representation which was threatening, abusive or insulting and the offence was racially aggravated in Banbury on January 14. Also admitted possessing cannabis (Class B) in Banbury on February 6. Fined £250, a £15 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **Lee Jordan**, 23, of Calthorpe Road, Banbury, admitted possessing cannabis (Class B), in Banbury on December 13. Fined £100, a £15 victims' surcharge and

£40 costs.

■ **Samuel Louther**, 19, of Edinburgh Way, Banbury, admitted being drunk and disorderly in Horsefair, Banbury, on February 4 and criminally damaging a car's convertible roof to the value of £1,500 in Bloxham on November 18. Given 200 hours' unpaid work and told to pay £1,500 compensation.

■ **Oliver Pockett**, 23, of Farbury End, Great Rollright, admitted possessing cannabis (Class B) in Witney on February 4. Fined £100, a £15 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

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# Banbury Cake prompts a railway station tidy-up

PILES of rubbish at Banbury railway station are to be cleared up – thanks to *The Banbury Cake*.

Network Rail has said it will tackle rubbish flung on to the banks of the River Cherwell after being alerted by the paper.

Network Rail spokesman Sam Kelly said: "We welcome any information from members of the

public that helps us keep the railway in full working order and in a presentable condition."

"We have a programme in place to regularly clear litter and tidy up the railway, particularly in areas close to railway stations."

She said: "Now we have been alerted to the fact that land by the station is in need of some attention,

we will look to remove litter from this location."

She could not give a date for when work will take place.

Retired teacher Trevor Davis, 67, said the piles of rubbish – some of it faded because it had been there so long – was not a welcoming sight.

Mr Davis, from Great Rollright, said friends from Australia, who got

off a train at the station, were shocked by what they saw.

He said: "They compared it to the drainage canals in Bangkok, which I know from experience are disgusting."

The station is a "gateway" to the Cotswolds through its link to London, he said, adding: "It gives a terrible impression of Banbury."

## InBRIEF

### Run nets £1,000

■ ABOUT 300 people took part in the annual Banbury Run to raise charity cash. Sunday's 15-mile event from Spiceball Park took in villages like Cropredy to raise £1,000 for Katharine House Hospice

### Nursery scheme

■ A WOODLAND day nursery and dance studio at Bloxham Business Centre should be approved, a council report says. Cherwell District Council planning officer Tracey Morrissey has recommended councillors give a green light to the plan. Some 235 people work at the centre. The council's planning committee will be asked to make a decision today.

### Drugs charge

■ A 37-year-old man has admitted drug dealing. Samuel Whitehead, of Edmonds Road, Banbury, appeared at Oxford Crown Court on Friday. He admitted one count of possessing 279g of cannabis (Class B) with intent to supply on October 14 last year. Whitehead was bailed to be sentenced on Friday, April 13.

### Hospice boost

■ A GUITAR show raised more than £200 for Adderbury's Katharine House Hospice. Banbury music shop One Man Band raffled an acoustic guitar at this month's showcase at The Mill Arts Centre, where music producer and session guitarist Chris Gibbons performed.

### Museum's relics

■ BRONZE axes that date from about 1,000 to 800 BC have gone on display at Banbury Museum. The 13 axes were found in a field in Chipping Warden. The hoard is on display at the Castle Quay Shopping Centre museum until May 3.

## ■ Patients awaiting surgery will be offered stop-smoking classes

# Want an NHS operation? Stub out that cigarette

By Amanda Williams

**PATIENTS** waiting for routine surgery are being told to stop smoking before they go under the knife.

A new policy in Oxfordshire means doctors must enrol patients in "stop smoking classes" while they are waiting for surgery.

Similarly, obese people awaiting surgery are also instructed to lose weight before their own procedures.

BMI is a measure that most people can use to check if their weight is healthy for their height. A BMI of 30 – when the rule kicks in – is classed as technically obese.

Patients are forced to enrol in the stop-smoking classes but health bosses said they would not turn people away from surgery if they did not comply, unless the patient was deemed at risk.

A spokesman for NHS Oxfordshire said: "When a patient is put on the waiting list for elective surgery, their GP practice will receive notification from the hospital that the patient should be referred to the practice's 'stop-smoking advisor'.

"All patients on the waiting list for elective surgery should be encouraged by their GP or practice nurse to participate in a 'waiting list' smoking cessation programme in order to improve the outcomes of their surgery and

minimise the potential for complications." The policy was introduced this year.

It comes after NHS Hertfordshire, which caused controversy last year by banning hip and knee operations for patients with a BMI over 30 and for smokers until they quit, has extended the policy to all routine surgery.

Hertfordshire's new policy, introduced in January, "blocks any patient with a BMI over 30 or a smoker from being referred for all routine surgery" except in neurology, cardiac and any surgery to do with cancer.

NHS Oxfordshire said the same policy did not exist locally and there were currently no plans to introduce something similar.

But its new "enhanced recovery" programme was welcomed by patients.

Jim and Kathleen Woodall, from Chadlington, smoked almost a million cigarettes between them before stubbing out their habit for good two years ago.

But they vowed to change their ways when 66-year-old Mr Woodall suffered a heart attack.

Mrs Woodall said: "I think, because of the anaesthetic, it sounds like a good idea to be generally healthier.

"Some people may think: 'Well, if I am having an operation on my leg, what's that got to do with it?'

"It may be that giving up just before going for a major operation might be a difficult time



Jim and Kathleen Woodall have given up after smoking more than a million cigarettes between them

to do it, but I'd definitely recommend people go try and get all the support they can."

A Department of Health spokesman said: "Decisions on treatments, including suitability for surgery, should be made by clinicians based on what is best for the patient."

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**InBRIEF**

Woman 'took revenge'

A NINETEEN-year-old woman has been found guilty of taking revenge on a witness. Chelsea French, of Howard Road, Banbury, was convicted by jurors on Monday after denying she had harmed Gabrielle Haire, on September 1 last year. Her co-accused Jenna French, 26, and Jason McMurray, 30, both of School View, Banbury, were acquitted of the charge and an alternative charge of actual bodily harm. Chelsea French will be sentenced on April 2.

**Website's stars**

■ OXFORDSHIRE County Council's website has been given three out of four stars in a national quality test. The website, which was re-launched in 2011, was given the ranking in Socitm's "Better Connected" assessment. Socitm is the membership association for all information and communication technology professionals working in local authorities and the public sector. Since the website's re-launch in September there has been an average of 7,700 visits per day compared to 4,350 in 2007 – a 78 per cent increase.

■ Residents' fury at civic U-turn on painting yellow lines

# Council draws the line on parking schemes

By Oliver Evans

**TRANSPORT** bosses have run out of cash to fund new yellow lines.

Oxfordshire County Council's Mike Horton said the coffers of the transport department were empty because of the squeeze on civic finances.

The news has incensed residents fighting for parking restrictions in Nursery Drive, Banbury.

The council had approved the plan to put down yellow lines, to include nearby Nursery Lane, but have now said that the work will not be done because of cuts and a "severe reduction" in resources.

John French, who got 91 out

of 104 homes to sign a petition calling for the yellow lines, said: "It would only cost 50p a metre. It seems an odd reversal after the three years we have been trying to get traffic restrictions. There must be some money."

"You can't drive down the road for parked cars."

The council said that it had to approve a "traffic regulation order" before lines could go down, costing about £2,500 in legal fees and advertising each time.

But costs could rise if residents objected, as proposals then had to be re-advertised and consulted on.

Mr Horton, the principal traffic engineer, said: "Because of the budget cuts, the county council no longer has any budg-



Oxfordshire County Council transport chief, Rodney Rose

et to fund new waiting restrictions.

"We are wholly dependent upon external funding."

This could come from cash given by developers, as part of deals with councils to get planning permission for schemes, he said.

The council's transport chief, Rodney Rose, said: "It is a matter of priorities.

"With reduced funding, I want to spend the money on maintaining the highway rather than the secondary bits of highways responsibility, like double yellow lines."

Cuts are vital to tackle the deficit, he said, with no cash for new yellow lines being funded by the council until at least 2013.

He added: "We have to get

beyond this, otherwise it becomes another Greece."

The council is cutting £119m out of its £950m-a-year budget from 2011 to 2015 because of a drop in cash from Government.

● Alyas Ahmed, the Conservative county councillor for Banbury Nethrop, said he would look at using his locality budget to fund the yellow lines in Nursery Drive.

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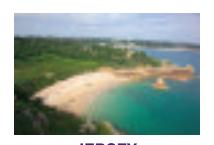


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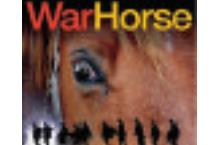


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# Incentive to boost dental appointments 'Voucher' offer for check-ups

By Amanda Williams

**HEALTH** bosses have launched a dental "voucher" scheme to encourage more people to get their teeth checked.

It comes after some patients complained the reason they did not go to a dentist was because it was too expensive.

Throughout March, people can apply for a voucher worth £17.50 for a free check-up at a local NHS dentist.

Nicky Wadely, is deputy head of Primary Care Contracted Services at NHS Oxfordshire, which is running the programme.

She said the trust had carried out research that showed the young adult group, aged between 18 and

30, were put off going to the dentist until they had problems with their teeth because they thought it was too expensive.

Ms Wadely said: "This age group typically have to decide what to spend their limited funds on."

"This is about encouraging people to get a check up before they experience problems."

"If you leave it too long, it could be more expensive in the long run."

In 2006 there were 298 Oxfordshire NHS dentists, with 49.5 per cent of the population (299,592) being seen at least once by an NHS dentist in the previous 24 months.

In 2011 the number of Oxfordshire NHS dentists had risen to 354, and 53 per cent of the population had seen an NHS dentist in the last 24 months – 331,699 people.

NHS Oxfordshire made a bid to win the money from central Government. It has been given around £200,000 to run the scheme across both Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

Ms Wadely added: "Finding an NHS dentist in Oxfordshire is easier than you think."

"We are keen to encourage people to take up the opportunity for a free check-up by applying for a voucher if they have not seen a dentist in the last two years."

Children and people in receipt of certain benefits can access dental treatment free.

Adults can apply for a voucher for a free dental check-up by calling 01865 337030 or by emailing their details to smile@oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk to check their eligibility.

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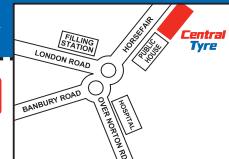
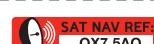
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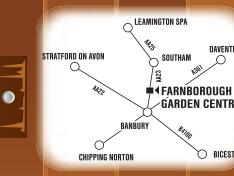
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Spot light on.....



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Customers with special plant requirements can also be offered advice and where possible, every effort will be made to locate plants not kept in stock.

With the change of gardening trends the garden centre at Farnborough has established and extensive range of pots and containers. These are

available in terracotta, glazed earthenware, fibreclay, stoneware and timber. The range changes constantly and always includes special offers and specialist items.

Stoneware ornaments, birdbaths, sundials and figurines are also available in a number of styles and stoneware colours.

As well as trees and shrubs the plant areas stock a wide range of herbaceous perennials, rockery plants and



alpines, together with aquatic plants and seasonal sundries.

The "on-site" nursery grows a full range of annual bedding and basket plants. Vegetable plants and herbs are on sale during spring and summer periods.

Customers own tubs and baskets are also planted to order in the spring and autumn. It must be said here, however, that there is a limit

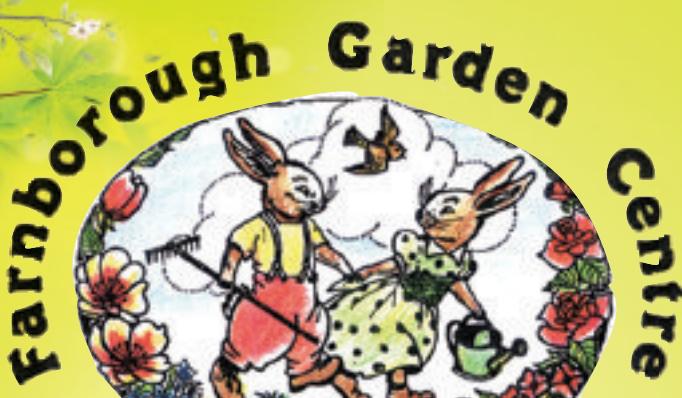
to the number that can be accommodated and once this limit is reached, further orders have been refused.

A new addition to the garden centre is their specialist supplier "Treasured Teddies" where an extensive range of



the Teddy bear is on sale. The bears range from limited edition collector items, right through to "everyday huggable's" with many manufacturers being represented.

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# More girls have implants but fewer under-16s get pregnant

# Rise in teen contraceptive injections

By Amanda Williams

THE number of schoolgirls in Oxfordshire who have been given a controversial contraceptive implant has risen by 50 per cent in three years.

In 2009, 46 girls under the age of 16 were implanted with the powerful mix of hormones, designed to alter their menstrual cycle to prevent pregnancy.

By 2011, the figure had risen to 69 – despite all of the girls being under the legal age of sexual consent.

The number of girls being given a contraceptive injection, has stayed roughly the same with 25 girls under 16 opting for the method in 2009, compared to 23 last year.

Oxford Health, the county's community health trust, said the implant operations were not carried out in schools.

But they confirmed the option to have an implant was offered to schoolgirls via school-based "Bodyzone clinics" and there was no legal obligation for the girls' parents to be informed.

An Oxford Health spokesman said: "The Oxfordshire Contraception and Sexual Health services are provided at our clinics, known as

'bodyzones', which are based at schools and run in partnership with school nurses, and through an outreach worker who contacts girls following a referral.

"The service prides itself on providing crucial support to young people, along with accurate information and advice.

"Girls are always treated with respect and are referred to the appropriate services.

"The work that is taking place within the C&SH service is part of the teenage pregnancy strategy, which has been successful in reducing the number of teenage pregnancies in Oxfordshire."

Last year 26.1 per 1,000 women in the county, aged between 15 and 17, became pregnant.

In 2005, figures stood at 34.1 per 1,000.

The contraceptive implant is inserted into girls' arms and works to temporarily prevent pregnancy by releasing hormones into the blood.

It is typically 4cm long and is inserted under the skin.

But under strict "patient confidentiality" rules, all staff involved in the procedure are banned from seeking the permission of parents beforehand. They are also banned from informing them afterwards.

One local cleric said: "I would much rather girls felt able to have a conversation with their parents, but I also understand that sometimes that is not possible.

"A school nurse isn't mum, but it's better than not having anyone to talk to."



The subdermal contraceptive

RIGHT: Only when pinched can the contraceptive implant be seen



## InBRIEF

Fun planned for half-term

HALF-term activities will be held at North Oxfordshire Academy, Banbury and Warriner School, Bloxham, next month. Cherwell District Council has organised sports and arts sessions from Tuesday, April 10, to Friday, April 13, from 9am to 4pm. The sessions will cost between £15 and £19. For details: email liam.didcock@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or call 01295 221803.

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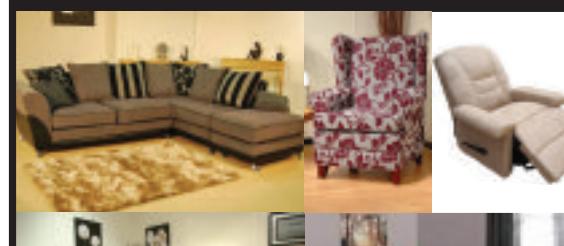
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## Osteoporosis

### fracture risk assessments

Osteoporotic fractures are common in post-menopausal women and of those who suffer a hip fracture, 3 in 10 will die as a result. However, osteoporosis can be prevented if weak bones are detected early enough. Scans for assessing risk of future fracture are not routinely available on the NHS, but you can now have a scan for £22.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Banbury Town Hall

For further information and appointments:  
Healthcare Screening 0845 224 6784

**InBRIEF****Canal planning guard**

■ A CONSULTATION exercise over plans to give protected conservation area status to part of the Oxford Canal has been extended.

The public debate looking at protecting the stretch of canal on the Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire boundary will close on April 16.

Conservation area status means extra planning tests would have to be met for any development in the area. For information visit [tinyurl.com/79olcm3](http://tinyurl.com/79olcm3)

**A sign of the times**

SIGNWRITER Les Edge has added Banbury Town Council to the list of clients he has had in the past – which included Diana, Princess of Wales, and the Tate Modern.

The town resident, who runs Edge Signs at Beaumont Business Centre, has been adding captions to portraits hanging in the town hall.

He added Diana's initials

to her Louis Vuitton suitcases, repaired gilding on The Queen's Coronation coach and added licks of paint to No.10 Downing Street and the British Museum.

He said: "I describe what I do as traditional signwriting. It went out of fashion for some years but the demand for it has returned."



Les Edge, pictured with his paint-brush in hand

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■ **Third man still on the run**

# Prison for baseball bat attack

By Thom Airs

TWO men who took part in an attack involving a baseball bat and a knife have been jailed – but a third man involved remains on the run.

Frederick Lawrence was hit over the head so hard that the baseball bat broke. He was then stabbed six times in the back, puncturing a kidney.

Dale Biddle and Kevin Silva were sent to prison, after appearing at Oxford Crown Court on Friday having earlier admitted causing actual bodily harm.

Silva, 32, was the man to swing the bat, while 23-year-old Biddle did not strike a blow but went along "as extra muscle", prosecutor Tim Boswell said.

The knifeman, however, was part of Biddle and Silva's group but has never been caught.

The incident took place in Rotary Way, Banbury, in April after Silva received a phone call telling him Nicole Asiedu was in danger and Mr Lawrence had a knife, the court heard.

Silva, of Warwick Road, Banbury, has 28 previous offences including ABH, battery and affray.

Biddle, of Waller Drive,

Banbury, has one conviction for causing grievous bodily harm in 2009 when he broke a man's jaw in a drunken fight. He was then given a six-month jail term, suspended for two years, which had been breached by his participation in this latest attack.

Graham Bennett, defending Silva, said: "There is dispute over what exactly happened, but there's no doubt he believed the information he had been given by Miss Asiedu on the phone – that she was being threatened, she was in danger and a knife had been mentioned."

Tom Kenning, defending Biddle, said: "His involvement is limited. He did not strike any blow."

Mr Kenning said Biddle runs his own jewellery and antiques business, which employs his father, mother and grandfather.

Judge Patrick Eccles said: "Both of you, together with that other man, went in a group to his home."

You, Kevin Silva, were in charge, you had armed yourself with a baseball bat and even if you feared that Miss Asiedu needed protection, what you did was nonetheless an unlawful and unacceptable reaction."

Silva was jailed for 15 months, Biddle for four months.

**Award for housing project**

A HOUSING scheme, which was built with the help of unemployed youngsters, has won a top award.

The Miller Road Young Person's Housing project was named the UK's most innovative local authority project at the Local Government Chronicle magazine's awards in London.

Cherwell District Council was among the organisations which got young apprentices to work on

the Bretch Hill project. The development of ten one-bedroom maisonettes which was named Donaldson Court after the late Connexions worker Julie Donaldson, opened last month.

Ms Donaldson was a "life coach" for the project.

Council housing chief Debbie Pickford said: "This project gives a positive example of how young people can turn their lives around."



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Wedding Fayre  
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Saturday 24th March 2012  
10am - 4pm**

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# ■ New book reveals unique local insight into a whole world in conflict

# Captured: Wartime tales of a village

Twenty-year-old Deddington baker, Sid Berry had never been much further than the county boundary when he volunteered for the Navy, but spent four perilous years aboard some of the most famous ships of World War Two.

Now Sid's story, and those of hundreds of other young servicemen, women and evacuees from one tiny Oxfordshire parish, have been put together, in *A Parish at War*, a military record of three Oxfordshire villages – Deddington, Clifton and Hempton.

The book, by Michael Allbrook and Robert Forsyth,



Navy cook Sid Berry

FROM making bread in a village bakery to feeding sailors in war-ravaged seas, Deddington-born Sid Berry was just one of a "fleet" of local young servicemen and women whose stories now feature in a unique new book. Debbie Waite reports.

gives a unique insight into how the parish's "youngsters" found themselves thrust from their everyday lives, into the horror of war.

Names, service details, photographs and experiences from Waterloo to the recent war in Iraq are covered, with accounts of the Home Guard, the Women's Land Army & Timber Corps, the Royal Observer Corps, WVS, Narrow boats, and of how the parish managed the evacuees who came to live there.

Co-author Rob Forsyth, a retired nuclear submarine commander, now 72, and living in Deddington, said: "The book contains tales of incredible courage, of love and of how a whole generation of young people risked their lives, without question, for their country.

"I didn't appreciate just how matter-of-factly the average young service person – who had

probably never travelled further than Banbury, found themselves in strange and exotic places such as the sands of Africa or jungles of Burma.

Researching the book took four years, and last month Forsyth and Allbrook presented a copy to the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Research Centre Library.

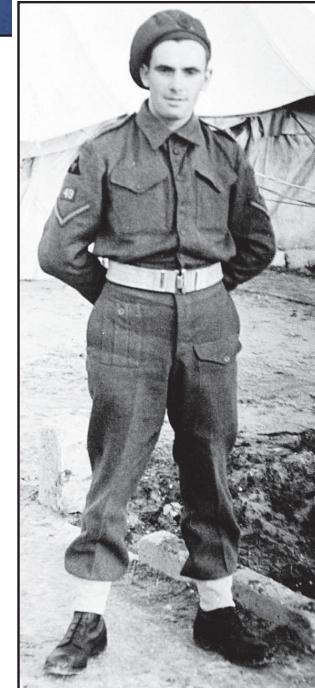
Colonel Tim May, vice-chairman of the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Trust, called it "an invaluable reference work for us in years to come".

*A Parish at War* costs £10 and is available from Deddington Library and Banbury Tourist Office.

All proceeds will go to the Deddington branch of the Royal British Legion and will be eventually used to provide a memorial to the men who died in WWI but whose names do not feature on the War Memorial.



ABOVE: Sid Berry, proudly wearing his war medals and the white beret of the Arctic Convoy Association  
RIGHT: Sid in his 1940s battledress



## The village baker who saw Bismarck sink

SID Berry was born in Hudson Street, Deddington. Because he started his working life as an apprentice baker at Course's Bakery, he was made a cook when he volunteered for the Royal Navy in September 1940.

Nothing in his life had prepared him for the four years of near constant warfare at sea that followed.

His first experience of this was on board HMS Mashona, which joined the hunt for the Bismarck in the Atlantic. Sid recalled seeing shells from HMS Rodney, destined for the Bismarck, passing overhead.

Shortly after seeing the Bismarck sunk, Mashona was ordered back to Plymouth. But en route she was attacked and sunk by German Focke-Wulf aircraft.

Sid told how when he came to the surface after jumping overboard, he

thought he had gone blind. In fact his cork lifejacket had ridden up over his head!

But he was not rescued until after dark and then spent six weeks in hospital with an injured leg.

Sid then served on HMS Ashanti, which carried out escort duties for numerous Arctic convoys bound for Russia.

After long days fighting monstrous seas, bitter weather and air attacks, the sailors of east-bound convoys arrived in Archangel to find little recreation on offer – except joining their Russian hosts in heavy drinking competitions.

In August 1942 HMS Ashanti was sent to the warmer – but no less dangerous – waters of the Mediterranean to take part in Operation Pedestal. This was an attempt to run 50 merchant and naval ships past a

gauntlet of German and Italian aircraft, E-boats, minefields and submarines and bring much needed relief to besieged Malta.

It has gone down in military history as one of the most important strategic victories of WWII and saved Malta, but was achieved at a cost of more than 400 lives.

At Action Stations, when there was no cooking to be done, Sid helped out with ammunition supply to an anti-aircraft gun in an exposed position on the upper deck.

In early 1944, Sid volunteered for the submarine service thinking this might be safer. He joined HMS Selene in the Far East and transferred to HMS Vivid in July 1945 to return to the UK.

In 2004, at home in New Street, Deddington, Sid made audio recordings of his naval experiences and

recollections of village life for the Deddington Online website ([www.deddington.org.uk](http://www.deddington.org.uk)).

He took part in every Remembrance Day march through the Market Place until his death, at the age of 86, in December 2006.

His 52-year-old daughter, Janet Macey, now lives in Sid's former home with her own family.

She said: "Dad brought my two brothers and I up after our mum died. And he was a very good cook!"

"But he didn't really talk too much about the war until he got older. Like most, he had never travelled far before joining the Navy, but he was very proud to have witnessed the Bismarck being sunk. He was pleased to have someone take down his memories and transcribe them for this book. We all miss him a great deal."



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# Experts tell of concern after UK's two driest winters on record

# Drought fear for our wildlife

By Damian Fantato

**CONSERVATIONISTS** in Oxfordshire say the drought has already had a noticeable effect on the county's wildlife.

It comes as the Environment Agency warns that some ponds and streams could dry up completely in the looming drought.

Thames Water announced last week that a hosepipe ban would be imposed from April 5, following one of the driest two-year periods in southern and eastern England since records began.

Since March 2010 the region has had 35cm less rain than normal.

Robin Buxton, of the Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum, said: "It is still March and there is still dew and frost – so the land does not have an appearance of drought.

"At the moment, the really critical thing is standing water. I am worried about species that live in or around them.

"I am concerned about species such as toads, frogs, newts and even dragonflies, because their eggs or larvae all live in the water."

Wildlife warden Alan Hart said: "Normally we have a lot of frogs spawning – but not this year."

"We have got two large ponds and one smaller one and there is nothing in any of them."

In its latest briefing on the drought, the Environment Agency said that after the recent "welcome" rain, the past week had been the driest in England and Wales for around six months.

No more than a few millimetres of rain fell across the country, with the South East region receiving the most rain in the week – just 4mm.

Debbie Lewis, of the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and

Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust, said: "There is very little that we can do, because obviously we cannot make it rain."

But Alexis Pym, of the Earth Trust, felt the county's wildlife would be able to adapt to the dry weather.

She said: "The only impact I have seen is lower levels in ponds. But wildlife is quite adaptable and while there are still rivers and streams, they will find a way to survive."

On Monday, the Environment Agency warned that, in drought-affected areas, it was likely some streams, ponds and shallow lakes would dry up.

Alistair Driver, Environment Agency national conservation manager, said: "The amount of water that we use at home and in our businesses has a direct effect on the amount of water available in our rivers and for wildlife.

"We would urge all water users to use it wisely to help protect our valuable natural environment."



Bbowt reserves ecology manager Debbie Lewis

## InBRIEF

### Charity run

**BANBURY**-based charity Dogs for the Disabled has only a few spaces left on the Great North Run. The charity, which provides assistance dogs for those with disabilities, is looking for people to run the race on its behalf and raise valuable funds. The 13.1m run is on Sunday, September 16. Details: call 01295 252600 or email run@dogsforthedisabled.org

### OAPs cautioned

**PEOPLE** as old as 78 have been cautioned for possessing cannabis, new figures show. One 78-year-old was cautioned in 2006, figures covering the Thames Valley Police area show. The figures reveal the age group with the most cautions, including intent to supply, was 18-year-olds. There were some 1,568 cautions from 2000 to 2011. A total of 26 over-60s were cautioned during this time.

### New website

**A NEW** mental health website for Oxfordshire people has been launched. The site contains a blog, discussion board, and a web poll. The website can be accessed at oxfordmhf.org.uk

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## Musical salute to his hero

THEY say you should never meet your heroes. Not least if you make a living impersonating him. And you're drunk.

Mike Hall cringes at the memory. "We were at an Eric Clapton concert at the NEC and it's safe to say we'd had a fair few drinks," says Mike, in his dulcet Geordie tones.

"And of course, the way I look, my

By Liz Nicholls

mates dared me to get backstage.

"The doorman said: 'Come in, Mr Clapton,' and there I was with him! I said nothing sensible, either on that occasion or another at the Albert Hall.

"I wish I'd met him sober! He was a nice guy but I can't remember much. I



Mike Hall pictured in action – or is it Eric Clapton?

will forever be embarrassed."

However, either Clapton wasn't bothered by his doppelganger's tipsiness or he was so bowled over by his electrifying voice and strumming style that he became a fan, later sending him a message of encouragement scribbled on a Concorde menu.

And Mike, whose sell-out outfit, Classic Clapton, return to The Mill next Saturday, is sending a tentative invitation to Old Slowhand just in case he wants to pop in to the gig on his birthday weekend.

"Ahh, he's more than welcome. He's on the guest list," says Mike. "I'd love to play on stage with him. We could play *Layla* – my favourite."

Mike first saw Eric in the 60s at the Club A GoGo in Newcastle at the tender age of 14. He was so moved that he immediately formed a band with schoolmates.

"Prior to Clapton, people played the guitar like Hank Marvin," says Mike. "But he made it powerful. And loud. And distorted. It stayed with me."

After seeing Clapton play at Live Aid in 1985, Mike put an advert in the paper asking for a keyboard player, a bass player and a drummer to get in touch. He had three convenient replies, creating After Midnight, and the band – with Neil Cochrane, Dave Robson and Brian Johnson – are still rocking the crowds 27 years later.

"We started off as a cover

band. We'd do Dire Straits and the Beatles," says Mike. "But immediately, covers of Eric got a following. We'd get hundreds instead of dozens.

"Everyone else was playing Tamla Motown and I think there were a lot of ageing hippies, who like us wanted guitar.

"It mushroomed. We saw the same faces along every night."

The fact that Mike bore an uncanny resemblance to Clapton was a blessing. "I didn't go out of my way to look like him," says Mike. But in the '70s and '80s, barely a day would go by without someone remarking on it.

"A taxi driver even pulled up when I was in Regent Street and said 'Ello Eric!'

The tight unit have played Glastonbury and Liverpool's Cavern Club and won accolades far beyond the tribute-band league. But is Mike not hampered by using his talent to imitate instead of create his own music? "I don't get frustrated at all. I have zero talent when it comes to songwriting – unlike our bass player,"

says Mike. "I'm extremely good at copying – that's why I don't sing in a Geordie accent! And I love the gigs."

"Last time at Banbury was great. It's an intimate venue and I like to go for a mingle afterwards. I like the fact that we'll get people of all ages. There'll be a young lad who's learning the guitar and some older people from back in the day."

The crowd-pleasing set features hits from the 19-Grammy master's Yardbirds days, through Cream, and his newer solo material, with an unplugged section too, and is unmissable for Clapton fans.

"We do all of his hits and know what the audience want. It gets them singing. The only difference I would say you get is that our gigs are slightly more upbeat than Eric's. He's very serious about his music but we're copying, so we have fun with it."

■ Classic Clapton is at The Mill, Banbury, on Saturday, March 31. Call 01295 279 002 for tickets.

## An artist in great demand

■ DESCRIBED by "Whispering" Bob Harris as a "superb guitarist reminiscent of John Martyn", Sean Taylor is an artist in great demand.

So we are lucky indeed to have him playing a very intimate venue, just up the road.

He brings his *Love Against Death* tour to the Brasenose Arms, Cropredy, this Sunday, to promote his acclaimed new album.

Born in London, but raised musically in Austin, Texas, Sean is one of those rare individuals – a musician who is prepared to stand up for his beliefs. His work is a direct challenge to a world dominated by greed, inequality, and injustice. And while that means David Cameron or Tony Blair are unlikely to be heard singing along in the audience, his radical stance makes for an engaging, and inspiring, show. Call the venue on 01295 750244 or go to brasenosearms.com

■ ONE of the driving forces of the 90s "baggy" scene pull on their flares and floral shirts for a night of perky keyboard-led indie-rock. Forced to spend time in hospital

Inspiral Carpets were up there with the Stone Roses, Charlatans and Happy Mondays – and while things have been quiet for the Oldham band since those heady days when "Madchester's Hacienda" was the centre of the universe, they have lost none of their spacy charm – and still pack a very cool punch.

Clint Boon, Craig Gill, Stephen Holt, Graham Lambert and Martyn Walsh bring their hits and revisit their earlier garage rock roots at the Leamington Assembly, tonight. Tickets are £18.50 from seetickets.com

■ MITCH Laddie is well on his way to becoming a blues legend.

Accomplished beyond his years, and hailed as a genius by the likes of Walter Trout, he combines elements of jazz, funk and pop along with the blues to create a sound that's uniquely his own.

Mitch's career can be traced back to the old showbiz saying "break a leg" – because that's exactly how it all started for him. Forced to spend time in hospital

at the age of 12, he whiled away the hours learning to play guitar seriously. His father would bring him in a new piece on each visit and Mitch would go for it.

He had been playing before then, however – from childhood. In fact, and it wasn't long before he got attracted to the "devil's music".

"Players like Stevie Ray Vaughan really pulled me over to the blues; I mean the emotion he displays in his playing is extraordinary," he says. "The older guys too, players like Albert Collins and BB King can flatten you with one note. You just don't get that with a lot of other types of music. It can really hit you hard."

Banburyshire music fans get a few chances to see Mitch and his three-piece band at local venues – with gigs at the Bullingdon, Cowley Road, Oxford, on Monday; The Stables, Milton Keynes, on April 3, and The Assembly, Leamington, on April 28. What the heck... go to them all. We plan to! Contact the venues for tickets.



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**HAPPY GO LUCKY** 38yr old lady, 5ft1, size 14. I have 2 sons and would like to meet a happy, laid back guy who likes kids. Devizes.. Box 467878

**LOVE TO TALK** Dark-eyed Wilts girl, 42, 5'2", enjoys nights out, movies and more, searching for an independent gent, to cosy times and conversation.. Box 113059

**STARTING FRESH** Separated, caring Witney woman, 44, honest, GSOH, trustworthy, enjoys family life, swimming, music, theatre, cinema and walks, seeking a similar man, kind and sincere, for dates & laughter.. Box 116588

**SPARKS FLYING** Fun, curly, green-eyed Wiltshire brunette, 44, looking for genuine, loving guy, to share some caring times and future happiness.. Box 852093

**LIFE IS TO SHARE** Single, genuine Oxfordshire woman, 45, GSOH, slim/med build, N/S, 5'5", enjoys days out, music, films and walking, seeking a special man, kind, loving and fun, for a long term relationship.. Box 115621

**OUR MOMENT** Lovely, hard-working, petite woman, 47, likes socialising, city pubs, eating out, seeks similar guy, for fun, laughter & hopefully more. Oxford.. Box 102616

**LOTS OF FUN** Blonde, cuddly female, 48, 5ft, pastry chef, with children, searching for youthful chaps, to share life with.. Box 113078

**SMOOTH MOVE** Slim, blue-eyed Trowbridge female, 48, 5'2", GSOH, easy to get on with, enjoys nights out, walks and more, searching for an honest, active, interesting man.. Box 109588

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**SHARING THE GOOD TIMES** Cheerful, hazel-eyed female, 49, blonde, medium build, lives & works in Swindon, enjoys travel, dining and the fun things, searching for a spontaneous guy, for good times.. Box 101568

**HOPES IT'S YOU** Happy go lucky, outgoing Trowbridge female, 49, enjoys bowling, cinema, ice skating, would like to meet a fun, happy mate, to enjoy life with.. Box 106719

**SEARCHING FOR YOU** Down to earth, Mauritius-born Devizes female, 50, looking for someone for a serious relationship.. Box 120023

**START LIVING AGAIN** Divorced, 50yr old single mum, grown up children, looking for love again. Someone to share life with.. Box 798804

**CARELESS WHISPER** Caring Oxford lady, 50, likes travel, walks and more, searching for a nice, non-smoking man, 59-65, for companionship.. Box 120248

**SEE FOR YOURSELF** Young 51yr old, 5'5", own house/car, enjoys walking my dog, socialising, affection, seeks male, 44-50 for a long term relationship.. Box 104009

**STARTING FRESH** Separated, caring Witney woman, 44, honest, GSOH, trustworthy, enjoys family life, swimming, music, theatre, cinema and walks, seeking a similar man, kind and sincere, for dates & laughter.. Box 116588

**READY AND WAITING** Confident, upbeat, Witney widow lady, 53, 5'9", looking for a tall slim and attractive man with a good sense of humour, to share good times together leading to more.. Box 120292

**SOMEONE EXACTLY LIKE YOU** Caring, lovely, bubbly Bicester lady, 53, looking for a tall, kind, caring and romantic man for a lasting loving relationship.. Box 118921

**I'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT** Separated female, 53, gsoh, likes going out, socialising, music, seeks friendly male, 38-48 for good times and more.. Swindon.. Box 104377

**TIME TO START AFRESH** Black, caring, African Epsom lady, 52', likes countryside, gardening, cooking and holidays, 50-70 for a long term relationship.. Box 115447

**EACH DAY IS A NEW ONE** Widow lady, 64, brown hair, blue/grey eyes, likes walking, reading, watching films, family life, gardening, seeks nice gent, for ltr. Witney.. Box 105525

**THE BETTER THINGS IN LIFE** Divorced Swindon female, 64, 5'5", works part-time, likes walking, travelling and cooking, would like to meet a nice sociable gent, with a good lifestyle, to enjoy life with.. Box 116288

**LET'S GO WITH THE FLOW** Genuine Bicester female, 59, own house, looking for a male to share good times, cinema, going out and staying in, hopefully leading to a long term relationship.. Box 119277

**THE LONG TERM** Separated, easygoing Oxon female, 59, likes cooking, evenings/in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with.. Box 100451

**LOVE IS FOR SHARING** Easygoing, sincere Trowbridge lady, 59, med build, 5'6", GSOH, N/S, enjoys good social life, darts, music, walking & reading, searching for that special guy, N/S and caring for dates & more.. Box 116161

**ENDLESS LOVE** Divorced Wiltshire brunette, 59, N/S, works part time, plays darts, loves gardening, reading, walks and lots more, looking for a gent, to share and enjoy life with.. Box 454148

**GENUINE AND CARING** Oxfordshire widow, 60, 5'6", slender build, sociable, caring and well-travelled, searching for a genuine, professional guy, non-smoker, for friendship, maybe lasting love.. Box 466487

**OVER THE MOON** Oxfordshire widow, 60, 5'6", slender, dark hair, sociable and caring, well-travelled and attractive, seeking a guy who is caring, professional and considerate. Could you be the one? Box 467516

**FUN TO BE WITH** Attractive Witney lady, 60, 5'2", very sociable, enjoys nights out, weekends away and most things, looking for a man, with a sense of fun, for some happy times.. Box 458867

**ENJOY LIFE** Retired, attractive, slim Oxfordshire lady, 60, searching for a gent, 55-60, to share happy times, friendship and maybe more.. Box 113207

**STRICTLY BALLROOM** Dancing lady, 61, 5'6", searching for a man, 5'10"+, N/S, who can jive, for friendship and ballroom dancing.. Box 111203

**LISTEN TO YOUR HEART** Happy go lucky Warminster female, 61, looking for a nice kind and reliable man to share good times together and more.. Box 120544

**SOCIALIE SORT** Tall, blonde Wiltshire girl, 62, enjoys cars, walks, gardening and more, searching for a sociable man, with an active lifestyle, for a loving and lasting relationship.. Box 452750

**CHATS OVER A PINT?** Country woman looking to meet a loving, dark haired, slim man.. I'm 63yrs old, 5'7", slim and fit, love being outside, walking and gardening.. Marlborough/Wiltshire.. Box 112241

**POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP** Part-time language teacher from Kidlington, 63, widow, likes walking, gardening, places of interest, dancing, seeking a chatty man for conversations and to laugh together.. Box 115447

**GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER** Romantic, caring Carterton guy, 33, 5'5", brown-eyes, likes football, gym, walking and socialising, looking for a female 25-36, for a long term relationship.. Box 113760

**BE YOURSELF** Affectionate, honest, slightly disabled Oxford male, 35, wide circle of friends, can be a bit shy at times, loves history, watching sci fi, looking for a strong minded woman.. Box 115975

**WE COULD BE GOOD TOGETHER** Down to earth Swindon male, 36, enjoys cycling, walks, travel and lots more, seeks laid back female, for good times and more.. Box 100773

**TIME TO SHARE** Lively Oxford male, 38, 5'10", med build, enjoys motorbikes, clubs, cinema, meals and more, searching for a loving woman, to share friendship and more.. Box 117999

**PLENTY OF TLC** Loving male, 39, 5'7", usual interests, from Didcot, looking for love and romance.. Box 111253

**PERFECT HARMONY** Fun loving, easygoing, tactile Witney biker, 40, 6', stocky build, shaven head and goatee, seeks fun loving, cheeky lady to share life with.. Box 108035

**THAT WONDERFUL FEELING** Laid back, sporty Woodstock male, 41, likes family life, meals out, social drinks and places of interest for companionship.. Box 114209

**NEW IN TOWN** Easygoing, slim woman, 65, 5'6", blonde, likes jazz, live shows, reading and walks, seeks down 2-earth male, for genuine friendship and more.. Box 100721

**LEADING TO MORE?** Genuine, happy Banbury woman, 66, GSOH, retired, widow, enjoys, cats, cinema, theatre, visiting places, meals out, gardening, holidays, diy and dancing, wlm a male companion, caring and honest.. Box 121137

**ALL FOR EACH OTHER** Tactile Witney male, 47, 6', blue eyes, enjoys cooking, animals, holidays when possible, would love to meet a male who wants companionship and maybe more.. Box 120683

**DOWN TO EARTH** Happy-go-lucky Swindon female, young 70, slim/medium build, loves walks, cooking, gardening, kisses and cuddles, looking for a non-smoking, clean-shaven man for a loving relationship.. Box 115039

**HOPE FOR US** Youthful, blue-eyed male, 47, enjoys the gym and good times, searching for a nice, honest woman.. Oxford.. Box 106575

**SHARING GREAT COMPANION** Widow lady, 72, likes animals, music, theatre, wlm easygoing gent, 60-70 for companionship and maybe more.. Box 104917

**ARE YOU THE LUCKY ONE?** Happy go lucky, solvent Banbury lady, 73, still working, likes travel, going out and about, would like to meet a trustworthy chap to enjoy life together.. Box 115637

**JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME** Intelligent, elegant, and warm hearted lady, 84, looking to meet a like-minded, successful companion who enjoys cultural activities, keeping active and trying new things.. Box 121812

**STRICTLY BALLROOM** Dancing lady, 61, 5'6", searching for a man, 5'10"+, N/S, who can jive, for friendship and ballroom dancing.. Box 111203

**LISTEN TO YOUR HEART** Happy go lucky Warminster female, 61, looking for a nice kind and reliable man to share good times together and more.. Box 120544

**SOULFUL IN OXFORD** Upbeat Abingdon male, 48, 6', fair-hair, non-smoker, likes country walks, driving, animals, meals out, nights in, looking for a curvy lady 40-50 to become soul mates.. Box 121675

**TAKE A TRIP WITH ME** Open minded Oxford guy, 49, likes all kinds of music, reading, visiting galleries, going to the cinema, eating out, walking and good conversation, wlm a female to share good times with.. Box 115232

**TIME FOR A CHANGE** Easygoing, active Kidlington male, 50, likes meals out, cinema, country walks and all the things couples do together, looking for that special female, to spend some quality time with.. Box 114429

**LOVE TO HAVE A LAUGH** Hardworking Oxford male, 49, 5'7", brown hair, own flat, likes socialising, cooking, nights in, seeks nice young lady for friendship leading to more.. Box 121027

**MADE FOR EACH OTHER** Handsome, healthy, friendly, easygoing Marborough gent, 58, non-smoker, enjoys the outdoors, would like to meet an attractive lady to share friendship and more.. Box 120679

**BE YOURSELF** Affectionate, honest, slightly disabled Oxford male, 35, wide circle of friends, can be a bit shy at times, loves history, watching sci fi, looking for a strong minded woman.. Box 115975

**FINDING HAPPINESS** Upbeat, friendly Banbury male, 52, non-smoker, seeking a friendly N/S female 45+, who enjoys country walks, country pubs, socialising and genuinely good company.. Box 118975

**SEE WHERE IT GOES** Confident, honest, trustworthy Abingdon male, 53, 5'6", medium build, non-smoker, seeks a down to earth woman 33-55, for a long term relationship.. Box 117103

**NOT TO BE MISSED** Spontaneous, caring, hard working Oxford guy, 53, likes music, cooking, tiv bands, good wines, F1 racing, would like to meet a simple woman to share life with.. Box 115773

**IT FOR THE LONG RUN** Genuine bloke, 54, from Didcot, happy go lucky person, looking for a young at heart lady to enjoy life again.. Box 111665

**LOVE THE COMPANY** Down to earth male, 55, 5'10", gsoh, many interest, seeks female, 35-60 any race, for fun, laughter and more. Banbury.. Box 104545

**CONFIDENTLY YOURS** Widowed chap, 60, 5'10", own home/business, Witney based, enjoys music, country walks, pubs, fishing, gardening, seeks outgoing female, to enjoy life again.. Box 107964

**START SOMETHING SPECIAL** Active male, 60, 5'7", blue eyes, GSOH, likes cinema, theatre, days out, country pubs, meals out, seeks similar female, 54-59, for company & more.. Box 104253

**BETTER WITH COMPANY** Tactile male, 60, 5'7", wears glasses, likes days out, country walks, evenings in, looking for a young lady, 50-60, to enjoy these good times together.. Box 104324

**SOUL TO SOUL** Divorced, active male, 77, looks younger, 5'6", enjoys pubs meals, car boot sales, crosswords and cosy times, wlm charming female, to share quality times.. Box 100937

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**ARE YOU THE ONE** Easygoing Christian female, 40, 5'6" blonde living in Devizes, thoughtful, caring, affectionate & young at heart, wlm like minded lady, for friendship/committed relationship.. Box 114735

**MORE IN TIME** Self-employed Witney male, 63, loves cinema, theatre, eating out and more, searching for a serious-minded lady, for a loving and supportive relationship.. Box 109413

**AND WHY NOT?** Genuine, loving Oxford male, 64, 6', GSOH, creative, enjoys countryside, evenings out and decorating, would like to meet an honest caring man, 40-65 any race, for true friendship and love.. Box 114735

**HOPE THIS WORKS** Cuddly Swindon lady, 46, easy going and fun to be with, looking for friendship leading to more with a nice, friendly, bubbly woman. Where are you? Box 851123

**THE BEST OF FRIENDS?**

Friendly, chatty Oxford female, 57, likes chats, coffee, lunch and anything else, looking for males and female for friendship.. Box 116662

**KEEP AN OPEN MIND** Retired lady, 68, from Swindon, wishing to meet female friends for days out.. Box 110140



**THE BRIGHT SIDE** Outgoing, friendly Wallingford male, 39, likes swimming, cycling, singing, eating out, places of interest, looking for sociable guys, for friendship laughter and good times.. Box 114488

**TWO OF A KIND** Honest Oxford male, 40, 6ft, average build, seeks good-looking man, 40-50, for fun, company & more.. Box 102391

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# Dexter excels with gritty UK drama

**WILD BILL** (15, 98 mins)  
Drama/Romance. Charlie Creed-Miles, Will Poulter, Liz White, Sammy Williams, Olivia Williams, Leo Gregory, Neil Maskell, Iwan Rheon, Jaime Winstone, Jason Flemyng, Andy Serkis. Director: Dexter Fletcher.

**A**ctor Dexter Fletcher makes an assured directorial debut with a gritty tale of retribution and reconciliation, shot largely on the mean streets of east London.

While there may be dodgy geezers and explosions of graphic violence, not to mention some cheeky one-liners, *Wild Bill* isn't another tepid crime caper in the mould of *Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels*.

Fletcher and co-writer Danny King fashion a story of family strife and bad choices that propels the narrative into the same dark realms as the Michael Caine revenge thriller *Harry Brown*.

Charlie Creed-Miles and Will Poulter anchor the film with terrific performances as a penitent parent and enraged son, torn apart by a lengthy prison spell.

"I felt bad about missing your birthday," pleads the former-con father.

"Which one?" coldly snaps the teenager.

At 98 minutes long, it's an exceedingly lean first effort and even though some of the characters are undernourished, *Wild Bill* marks

Fletcher as a talent to watch out for behind the camera, as well as in front of it.

After an eight-year stretch, Bill Hayward (Creed-Miles) is granted parole and he nervously returns to the tower block he shared with his family.

Bill discovers that his ex-wife has abandoned their two children: 15-year-old Dean (Poulter) and 11-year-old Jimmy (Sammy Williams).

The older boy is working illegally on a building site to keep food on the table.

Bill accidentally reveals to his case worker (Olivia Williams) that his boys have been home alone for months and social workers Helen (Jaime Winstone) and John (Jason Flemyng) descend with the intention of taking the minors into care.

So Dean hurriedly blackmails his father into staying around long enough to keep the authorities off their back.

However, when one of the lads gets into trouble with thug Terry (Leo Gregory) and his goons (Neil Maskell, Iwan Rheon), Bill must risk everything to protect his emotionally battered brood.

Wounds are gradually salved with the minimum sickly sentiment, and Fletcher finds moments of beauty amid the grime.

The screenplay is laced with mordant humour, like when a pint-sized messenger confirms a rendezvous time with Bill.



Leo Gregory, playing Terry, in a scene from the film, *Wild Bill*

Dean asks suspiciously: "What does he want?"

"Shooting!" replies Bill with an impish grin.

Guns and baseball bats are out in force for the grim denouement that replicates a classic Western saloon showdown with a stand-off in a deserted boozey.

Two pints of freshly spilt blood, please.

## CakeWhat's on

### Music

**FRIDAY:**  
**GF Social Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury:** Paul Canning. Singer and guitarist. 9pm. £1. 01295 252852.

**Musketeer Banbury, Ruscote Avenue, Banbury:** Sub Zero. Covers duo. 9pm. Free. 01295 269296.

**SATURDAY:**  
**Barley Mow, Warwick Road, Banbury:** Decades, Covers duo. Free. 9pm. 01295 269758.  
**Brasenose Arms, Station Road, Croxley:** Bramble and Coglan, violin virtuoso Dave Allen, Dave Headon and guitarist Richy Hoy. From 9.15pm. Free. 01295 265742.

**GF Social Club, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury:** Music from the 40 Watt Band. 9pm. £1. 01295 252852.

**Horse and Jockey, Malthouse Lane, Bodicote:** Under the Covers. 9pm. Free. 01295 269549.  
**Social Club, Astrop Road, Middleton Cheney:** MelPeake. 7.15pm. £4, members £2. 01295 721220.

**St Mary's Church, Horsefair, Banbury:** Banbury Symphony Orchestra's Spring Concert. 7.30pm. 7.30pm. £10, child £4, family £25. 01608 645589.

**SUNDAY:**  
**Brasenose Arms, Station Road, Croxley:** Sean Taylor, blues and acoustic. 6.30pm. 01295 750244.  
**Social Club, Astrop Road, Middleton Cheney:** Charlie Chaplin. 7.15pm. £4, members £2. 01295 721220.

**The Blue Boar, Goddards Lane, Chipping Norton:** Nikki Loy. Free. 5-8pm. 01608 643525.

### Cinema

**Odeon, Horsefair, Banbury:** The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, 12A, daily 4.45, 7.30pm, Wed 10.45am (subtitled Tue 7.30pm). The Hunger Games, 12A, Sat 11.30am\*, Fri-Thu 2.30\*, 5.30\*, 8.30pm\*. The Devil Inside, 15, daily 2pm. Senior Screen: Mission Impossible - Ghost Protocol, 12A, Wed 11am\*, ends 1.30pm. Odeon Kids: Mr Popper's Penguins, U, Sat doors 10.30am, film 11am, ends 12.49pm. (NB: cinema may refuse admission to guests arriving

after the feature has started.) Box office: 0871 224 4007.

**The Theatre, 2 Spring Street, Chipping Norton:** War Horse, 12A, Sat 7.30pm. The Woman In Black, 12A, Wed 7.30pm. Box office: 01608 642350

### Theatre

**Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury:** Mar 22, *The Seagull Effect*. 7.30pm. £10, concession £8.

Mar 23, Battle of the Bands. 7.30pm. £5 adv, £7 at the door. Mar 24, U2UK. 8.30pm. £10 advance, at the door £12. Mar 28-29, Youth Theatre Platform. 6.30pm and 8.30pm. £6, concession £3. Box office: 01295 279002.

**The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton:** Mar 23, 24, Ballet Central. An exciting programme of dance. Fri 7.45pm, Sat 2.30pm. Mar 25, Julian Smith and Band. 7.45pm. £15, concession £13. Mar 26-27, Youth Theatre Showcase. £5, concession £2. 7.30pm. Box office: 01608 642350.i

# CakeSport

[banburycake.co.uk/sport](http://banburycake.co.uk/sport)

Evo-Stik Southern League, Premier Division

# Banbury slips into danger

## LATEST TABLES

### EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE

	Premier Division						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brackley	34	19	9	6	69	45	66
AFC Totton	33	18	7	8	62	31	61
Cambridge	35	18	6	11	63	46	60
Oxford C	33	17	8	8	56	37	59
Stourbridge	33	16	10	7	57	36	58
Chesham	33	16	8	9	54	41	56
Leamington	34	14	11	9	44	39	53
St Albans	35	15	8	12	62	61	53
Chippenham	34	13	8	13	46	39	47
Bedford	34	13	7	14	54	57	46
Barwell	34	12	9	13	58	53	45
Hitchin	34	11	10	13	43	43	43
Weymouth	33	12	7	14	47	57	43
Arlessey	34	11	8	15	37	43	41
Frome	33	10	11	12	33	40	41
Bashley	34	11	8	15	47	64	41
<b>Banbury</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>40</b>
Redditch	34	11	7	16	33	39	40
Evesham	34	11	5	18	43	59	38
Supermarine	34	9	8	17	43	70	35
Hempstead	34	7	12	15	35	54	33
Cirencester	34	6	8	20	32	59	26

**BANBURY** were plunged into the Premier Division relegation fight following their defeat at the hands of fellow strugglers Swindon Supermarine.

The home side's opening goal should have been pulled back for offside, and Banbury were denied a penalty, but they cannot blame this defeat solely on officials.

Too often their front two were left isolated, while the side also failed to make the most of Ricky Johnson's aerial prowess.

Manager Ady Fuller's cause was not helped by the late withdrawal of Simeon Williams and Dan Chilton.

Johnson and Josh Blake, who hit the bar, went close before Swindon took the lead.

Bradley Gray appeared well offside when he received a clearance, but he was allowed

**Swindon Supermarine** 2  
(Stanley 26, Etheridge 88)

**Banbury United** 0

to cross to the far post where Nick Stanley smashed home.

In the second half, Blake was brought down in the penalty area, but no foul was given.

Banbury threw everything at Swindon in the closing moment, but Max Etheridge sealed it for the hosts with a breakaway goal.

**Banbury Utd:** Kemp, Coleman, Kinch, Dolman, Thackeray, Emery, Howell, Cole, Johnson, Blake, Polk (Angus 44). Subs not used: Richardson, Lamb, Fuller.

Attendance: 173.



Ricky Johnson's aerial prowess failed to save Banbury from a 2-0 defeat

## STARS with Claire Petulengro



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### ARIES

Mar 21-Apr 19

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**LIBRA**

Sep 23-Oct 22

Love is making it hard for you to judge a close one as others are and you need to be careful that you are not sticking up for them in a matter which they are actually quite plainly guilty over. Support them but don't fight a battle which neither of you can win, or you'll just end up looking and feeling the fool. Give me a ring now to hear which sign is finally ready to make commitments.

**TAURUS** 0906 585 4360



**SCORPIO**

Oct 23-Nov 21

Romance looks interesting and should improve towards the end of the month. You begin to play a much more important role in your affairs and could even make a change to the way you view your short term plans. Be nice to all the people you meet in your career. The most unexpected of faces could hold more power than you realised. Ring me now to reveal your destiny.



**GEMINI** 0906 585 4361

May 21-Jun 20

**SAGITTARIUS** 0906 585 4362

**CAPRICORN** 0906 585 4363

Nov 22-Dec 21

**AQUARIUS** 0906 585 4364

**LEO** 0906 585 4365

**PISCES** 0906 585 4366

Dec 22-Jan 19

**TAURUS** 0906 585 4367

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# CakeProperty

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## Merging the old and new

By Gill Oliver

**A COUNTRY** cottage, embracing more than 400 years of history, has come on the market in north Oxfordshire.

Top Thatch, in Hempton, near Deddington, dates back to the 16th century and is Grade II-listed, acknowledging its architectural significance.

Period features include an inglenook log burner, dining room with flagstone floor and a stone bothy for storage.

But while the three-bedroom property is steeped in tradition, it has been refurbished to the highest standard.

The accommodation includes a hall, dual aspect sitting room, dining room, a kitchen with a Rayburn cooker and a cloakroom. Upstairs there are three double bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Naturally there are extensive rural views across open countryside, while the property itself boasts a garden stretching to 90 feet.

Outside there is also a

traditional stone shed as well as covered parking in a car port and an additional gravelled area.

The cottage is situated in Hempton, between the larger villages of Deddington and Bloxham and is well situated for commuting to Banbury, Bicester, Milton Keynes and Oxford.

Top Thatch is on the market for £379,000.

For more information or to book a viewing call Max Douglas on 01608 644 000 or visit [www.maxwelldouglas.co.uk](http://www.maxwelldouglas.co.uk)



An exterior picture of Top Thatch, Hempton, and, inset, the lounge. The cottage is on the market for £379,000

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Three bedroom family home set on a corner plot offers - Lounge, Dining room, Kitchen, Main

**£152,950**  
Sussex Drive  
NEW PRICE

This Three bedroom Mid terraced family home offers lounge, kitchen/diner, three bedrooms, family bathroom, Rear garden and parking, double glazed and gas central heating. Popular area close to shops, schools and a bus route.

**£149,000**  
Warwick Road  
No chain

This property offers- Three bedrooms. Two reception rooms Kitchen Bathroom Garden Close to the town centre. No chain would benefit from some modernisation Gas central heating Double glazing

**£110,000**  
Settler House  
No chain

This ground floor one bedroom flat offers- Re fitted bathroom/Re fitted kitchen/Single garage/No

**£104,000**  
Calthorpe Street  
New

One bedroom studio apartment Kitchen area with appliances Lounge Bedroom with en suite

**£169,950**  
St Anne's Road  
SSTC

Two-BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW PORCH ENTRANCE HALL \*KITCHEN \*LOUNGE \*MAIN

**£125,000**  
Orchard Way  
SSTC

This Two double bedroom property offers - Lounge/diner, Kitchen, Bathroom, Good size Enclosed

**£139,950**  
Miller Road  
SSTC

This good size three bedroom semi detached home offers- Good size kitchen, Large garden, Off road parking.

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## WHAT PROPERTY INVESTORS HAVE TO TELL THE TAX MAN

**Many property investors fail to tell the tax man about their property businesses and face mounting fines and penalties.**

Property investors run two types of business – renting and trading property. Each one has separate and specific tax rules.

A property rental business covers buy to let, houses in multiple occupation and holiday lets. Rental property owners must tell HM Revenue and Customs that they have a new stream of income within six months of the date their first letting property is rented to tenants.

Then, they must keep good financial records showing rental income and expenses from the date of first letting until April 5 the following year. After that, financial records are kept from April 6 to the following April 5 until the property business ends.

Rental profits or losses should be reported to HMRC on a tax return – a self-assessment return for individuals or joint owners. Companies

have separate tax dates and returns.

If a property is sold, gifted or otherwise disposed of, each owner should tell HMRC by October in the year following the disposal and then submit the details on their return for the tax year covering the transaction.

Property traders have a different tax regime from landlords, but they still have to tell HMRC they have started a business within six months of the start of trading. The key is good financial record keeping that shows whether a property is an investment or a trade.

**There are many issues to consider before letting your property out. With more than 50 Acts of Parliament and 70 sets of regulations which landlords should be aware of, letting is a complex, specialist field. Contact Maria Lucas, Managing Director of Let Lucas Rental Specialists on 01295 234717 for a consultation with a qualified, licensed letting expert.**

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### Martin & Co Property of the Week

**Winchelsea Close - £575 pcm**

A super one bedroom house in Hardwick with a garden and parking. There is a good size kitchen and separate living room. Upstairs there is a double bedroom and bathroom. Ideal for a professional couple or single person. Electric heating.

**Forgeway - £750 pcm**



A recently refurbished 3 bedroom house in Hardwick with brand new kitchen and new carpets throughout. Available 21 March.

**Middleton Road - £750 pcm**



Last chance to acquire a stunning brand new 2 bedroom penthouse apartment in Grimsbury. Secure parking and within walking distance to town centre and train station.

**Byfield - £750 pcm**



A large 3 bedroom family home with a large garden and garage. Two double bedrooms and one single bedroom. Separate dining room. Available now.

**Hanwell Fields - £675 pcm**



An immaculate 2 bedroom house with garden and garage. Good size kitchen and spacious lounge. Available 7th May.

**Aynho - £650 pcm**



A well presented 2 bedroom terraced house full of character. Modern fitted kitchen. One double and one single bedroom. Book your viewing now.

**Pascali Place - £650 pcm**



A super 2 bedroom house on Hardwick with allocated parking and garden to the rear. Lovely kitchen and good size light and airy lounge. Ideal for a family or professional couple.

**Wroxton - £525 pcm**



A stylish one bedroom apartment in a rural setting. Available unfurnished £525 pcm or furnished at £550 pcm.

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# CakeMotoring

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# Friend of family given fresh face

By David Duffy

PEUGEOT'S pitch into the value-for-money people carrier market, the Partner Tepee, is about to get a long-awaited lift.

The versatile vehicle, is about the same size as a compact hatchback, but offers a whopping amount of interior space. And it's that family-friendly ability to cope with whatever is thrown at it, that has made it a hit. Chunky, spacious and economical, the Spanish-built Partner Tepee is about to get its biggest makeover since it was launched almost four years ago.

Coming soon is an updated modern appearance, latest generation, low-emission engines and a boost in equipment levels.

The existing model, tested here, already comes with some state-of-the-art equipment, not least a diesel engine fitted with latest stop-start technology.

Couple that power plant with a six-speed automatic transmission, which can be operated from steering wheel-mounted paddles and you have a car that is not only frugal, but supremely easy to manage in and around town.

Its van origins are evident the second you sit behind the wheel, but that's not to say travelling in a Tepee is a spartan experience, or lacking in goodies.

## Places to visit

## High-speed rides on offer as F1 race treat

MERCEDES is offering a way to make Formula One weekends even more exciting with special race-day events at Mercedes-Benz World in Surrey.

Almost all of this season's races will be broadcast live on a large screen at the Brooklands-based venue alongside driver and passenger experiences in AMG performance cars.

Brooklands is the world's oldest purpose-built race track, and visitors on F1 race days will be able to take high-speed passenger rides and driving experiences starting from £15 for adults and children.

Far from it. On the technology front, there is a speed limiter/cruise control, for convenience there is hill-start assistance and for safety there is an electronic stability program combined with traction control.

Some of the extras fitted neatly illustrate the technology and levels of luxury that are available, so £160 delivers automatic lights and rain-sensing wipers, automatic air conditioning (£650) and a USB connection with Bluetooth phone link (£210) for those who want it.

The Tepee is fitted as standard with a rear bench seat that can be folded (two thirds – one third), folded forwards against the front seats or removed completely. A set-up with three individual rear seats is also available. Fitted with a curved headrest and a reclining back, each seat can be easily folded or removed.

A tray with two cup-holders is built into the back of the centre seat

### Auto facts

**Model:** Peugeot Partner Tepee S e-HDi  
**Price:** £15,295  
**Insurance group:** 3E (1-50)  
**Fuel consumption (Combined):** 58.9mpg  
**Top speed:** 103mph  
**Length:** 438cm/172.4in  
**Width:** 211cm/83in  
**Luggage capacity:** 23.8 cu ft  
**Fuel tank capacity:** 13.2 gallons/60 litres  
**CO2 emissions:** 130g/km  
**Warranty:** Three years/60,000 miles



**SPACIOUS:** The versatile Partner Tepee's key attribute is a huge amount of useful space

which, once folded, can be used as a table between the two outer seats. There are also folding "airline" style trays attached to the backs of the passenger and driver's seats.

The car's ace in the hole is space. Oodles of it. In the passenger compartment, there are extra glove boxes on top of the fascia, two storage areas under the air vents in the central fascia panel, an optional 13-litre centre storage console, and overhead storage areas above the passenger and driver's head.

The new model was unveiled at the Geneva Motor Show and went on sale this month.

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■ A SPECIAL edition BMW M3 Limited Edition 500 has been confirmed for the UK, complete with special paint and upholstery combinations and £4,000 of additional kit for £1,000 extra.

Mechanically, it's set to be the same as a normal M3, but with a selection of special paints, extended leather upholstery in unique colours and extra gadgets. It's set to be restricted to 500 units, in a combination of coupé and convertible body styles. The £1,000 price increase means that the Limited Edition 500 cars will sell for £55,690 for the coupé and £59,785 for the convertible.

■ JAGUAR'S fastest model, the XKR-S coupé, has been joined by a convertible version. With the same supercharged V8 engine as the coupé, the XKR-S Convertible is capable of 186mph, making it the fastest open-topped Jaguar ever made. It also benefits from enhancements over the standard XKR, including stiffer and lower suspension. Prices start at £103,000.

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Mercedes Benz C200 1.8 K Auto, 2003, Metallic Silver, 60000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, cruise, air con, £4999

Mercedes C220 Diesel SE, 2002/52, Metallic Silver, 63000 mls, air con, alloys, cd, cruise, r/lock, £5499

Mercedes CLK 320 Avantgarde Auto Coupe, 2003, Metallic Silver, 83000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, cruise, speed limiter, £5499

Mercedes CLK 240 2.6 Coupe Auto Avantgarde, 2004, Metallic Silver, 53000 mls, leather, air con, alloys, cd, cruise, r/lock, £6899

Mercedes E240 2.6 Elegance Auto, 2002/52, Brilliant Black, 60000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, cruise, air con, r/lock, wood pack, £5999

Mercedes E Class 240 Elegance Auto, 2004/54, Metallic Silver, 77000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, cruise, r/lock, speed limiter, £7299

Mercedes E270 CDI Avantgarde Auto 2003/53, Brilliant Black, 56000 mls, climate control, alloys, cd player, pdc, rear rests, leather, pan roof, £9399

Mercedes E270 CDI Auto Elegance Estate, 2004/53, Metallic Grey, 35000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, cruise control, roof rails, folding seats, £9999

Mercedes E320 CDI Avantgarde Auto, 2003, Metallic Silver, 50000 mls, I owner, leather, air con, alloys, cd, cruise, r/lock, £8499

Mercedes SLK 230 Kompressor 1999, Metallic Silver, 74000 mls, leather, electric roof, cd player, Air con, £5399

Mercedes Benz Slik 200 Kompressor Auto, 2003, Metallic Silver, 29000 mls, leather, alloys, e/roof, cd player, tilt wheel, £2899

Mercedes Benz SL 3.2 V6 Auto Convertible, 2001/Y, Metallic Silver, 59000 mls, leather, alloys, hard and soft top, air con, r/lock, cd, cruise, electric seats, fogs, £8999

Mercedes SL AMG 6.3 Auto Convertible, 2003, Metallic Blue, 91000 mls, Leather, sat nav, alloys, electric roof, keyless go, cd, climate control, stunning looker, £17999

Mercedes Benz CLK 320 Elegance Auto Convertible, 2004/53, Metallic Silver, 45000 mls, air con, alloys, e/roof, cd, cruise, speed limiter, £8499

Mercedes Benz CLK 200 Kompressor Elegance Auto, 2002/52, Metallic Silver, 50000 mls, leather, cruise control, speed limiter, pdc, cd player, alloys, £6999

Mercedes S320 CDI Diesel, 2002, Metallic Silver Mink, 102000 mls, leather, cd, cruise, air con, alloys, rear rests, r/lock, air bags, £6499

Nissan

Nissan Micra 1.4 SVE Auto, 2004/54, Metallic Silver, 16000 mls, air con, cd, alloys, r/lock, air bags, £4499

Porsche

Porsche Boxster 2.7 Convertible, 2002, Metallic Silver, 40000 mls, leather, alloys, air con, e/roof, e/windows, cd player, £2899

Porsche 911 997 Carrera Coupe, 2005, Metallic Silver, 39000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, sat nav, heated seats, electric seats, e/windows, e/mirrors, fogs, 1 owner, £27999

Peugeot

Peugeot 1007 Sport Diesel, 2006, Metallic Grey, 42000 mls, air con, cd, alloys, r/lock, pas, e/windows, £4399

Peugeot 307 2.0 Convertible, 2004/54, Metallic Blue, 62000 mls, leather, alloys, tints cd, r/lock, rear rest, £4899

Peugeot 407 2.0 HDI 138 SE, 2006, Metallic Blue, 60000 mls, air con, alloys, tints cd, r/lock, rear rest, £4999

Peugeot 407 SW 2.2 Auto SE Estate, 2009/58, Metallic Blue, 38000 mls, leather, pan roof, alloys, £7999

Peugeot 407 3.0 Coupe 6 Spd, 2005/55, Metallic Silver, leather, air con, h/seats, e/seats, cd, cruise, £5999

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Rover 75 2.5 Contemporary SE, 2004, Metallic Silver, 48000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, r/lock, air con, £3499

Renault

Renault Clio 1.1 5 Dr Expression, 2006, Metallic Grey, 20000 mls, air con, r/lock, e/windows, fogs, £4499

Renault Megan Diesel 1.9 Dynamique convertible, 2006, Metallic Blue, 52000 mls, air con, alloys, cd, e/roof, air bags, fog lights, £5999

Renault Megan 1.6 Dynamique convertible, 2006, Metallic Grey, 31000 mls, air con, cd player, alloys, £5799

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Saab 9.3 1.9 Diesel Vector Auto Sport, 2007, Metallic Silver, 38000 mls, leather, cd, alloys, cruise, £7899

Saab 9.3 2.0 Vector Convertible, 2004/54, Metallic Blue, 35000 mls, air con, leather, r/lock, electric roof, £6999

Saab 9.5 Vector Sport T 2.0 Auto, 2005/55, Metallic Grey, 32000 mls, climate control, r/lock, alloys, rear rests, cup holders, storage pack, £4999

Saab 9.3 1.8 T Vector, 2004/54, Metallic Blue, 32000 mls, Air Con, Alloys, R/lock, CD, Air Bags, M/F Wheel, £5299

Saab 9.5 1.9 TD 150 Vector Sport Estate, 2008, Metallic Blue, 71000 mls, leather, cd, air con, alloys, £6699

Saab 9.3 2.8 T Aero, 2006/56, Metallic Silver, 35000 mls, leather, air con, alloys, cd, cruise, carbon pk, £5999

Ssangyong

Ssangyong Rexton 270 SE Diesel, 2008, Metallic Silver, 29000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, r/lock, aircon, £7999

Skoda

Skoda Octavia Auto Diesel Elegance, 2005/55, Metallic Mink, 61000 mls, air con, cd, alloys, r/lock, £6299

Suzuki

Suzuki Grand Vitara 5dr Estate 1.6V 2006, Metallic Silver, 60000 mls, air con, alloys, cd, r/lock, £6499

Suzuki SX4 1.6 DDS Diesel Hatchback, 2008, 40000 mls, air con, alloys, cd, r/lock, roof rails, £6799

Subaru

Subaru Forester XT Estate, 2003, Metallic Blue/Grey, 65000 mls, leather, air con, alloys, rails, cd, £5999

Toyota

Toyota Yaris 1.3T Sport Auto, 2005, Metallic Silver, 11000 mls, air con, alloys, cd, r/lock, fogs, £4499

Toyota Rav 4 XT3, 5 Dr, 2004, 36000 mls, Metallic Red/Grey, air con, alloys, sunroof, wheel cover, £7499

Toyota Rav4 2.0 GX 5 DR Auto, 2002, Metallic Silver, 62000 mls, air con, alloys, cd, roof rails, r/lock, £5799

Toyota Rav 4 GX 5 DR, 2003, Metallic Silver, 74000 mls, air con, alloys, cd, roof rails, folding seats, £5299

Toyota Corolla 1.6 VVT-i T Spirit 5 Dr Auto, 2006, Brilliant Red, 42000 mls, air con, alloys, cd, r/lock, sat nav, aluminium pack, £6199

Toyota Corolla Verso 1.8 VVT-i T Spirit, 2007, Metallic Blue, 49000 mls, air con, 7 seats, cd, r/lock, alloys, folding seats, £6999

Toyota Corolla Verso 2.0 D-4D T3 MPV, 2005, Metallic Silver, 76000 mls, air con, alloys cd, roof rail, £5999

Vauxhall

Vauxhall Vectra VVTi SRI 1.8 5Dr Hatchback, 2007, Metallic Silver, 35000 mls, leather, alloys, air con, cd, r/lock, £4999

Vauxhall Zafira 1.9 CDTI Elite MPV, 2010, Metallic Black, 28000 mls, leather, cd, air con, alloys, £10499

Vauxhall Tigra 1.8 Exclusive convertible, 2006/56, brilliant black, 52000 mls, r/lock, air con, aluminium pack, £5899

Vauxhall Tigra 1.8 Sport Convertible, 2004/54, Metallic Blue, 55000 mls, leather, air con, electric roof, r/lock, alloys, £4699

Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Twin Top Convertible, 2007/57, Metallic Silver, 23000 mls, air con, electric roof, alloys, fogs, £7399

Vauxhall Astra CDTi Diesel Convertible, 2008/58, Brilliant Black, 64000 mls, air con cd, alloys, e/roof, e/windows, r/lock, folding seats, £6699

Vauxhall Meriva 1.3 CDTI 16V Life MPV, 2008/57, Brilliant Black, 42000 mls, air con, r/lock, cd, £4999

Volkswagen

Volkswagen Phaeton 3.0 Diesel V6 4 Motion, 2008/58, Brilliant Black, 53000 mls, leather, cd, e/seats, folding mirrors, £15999

Volkswagen S80 2.4 Diesel SE Auto, 2003, Metallic Ice, 61000 mls, leather, air con, alloys, cd, r/lock, £5499

Volkswagen S60 2.0T SE, 2006, Metallic Silver, 42000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, r/lock, fogs, air con, alloys, £6499

Volkswagen C30 Diesel SE Sport Design, 2008, Brilliant Black, 51000 mls, leather, air con, alloys, cd, r/lock, £9999

Volkswagen S80 2.8 T6 SE Geartronic, 2001/51, 45000 mls, leather, climate, alloys, tints, r/cd player, rear head rests, £3399

Volkswagen C70 2.0 Convertible, 2005, Metallic Grey, 72000 mls, leather, alloys, cd, e/roof, r/lock, tilt wheel, £4899

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**Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). New Zafira Tourer SE 1.4i 16v VVT Turbo (140PS): Urban 32.1 (8.8), Extra-urban 51.4 (5.5), Combined 42.2 (6.7). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 158 g/km.**

\*Model shown Zafira Tourer SE 1.4i 16v VVT Turbo (140PS) £23,665 with optional panoramic windscreen/panoramic sunroof £600, pearlescent paint £495 and 18" wheels £310, premium forward lighting pack £790, and Navi 600 sat nav £855. Total cost £26,715. Offer available for registrations between 01.03.12 and 11.04.12. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. ^Customer deposit shown after deduction of Vauxhall contribution.

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05 55	RENAULT MODUS 1.6 DYNAMIQUE AUTOMATIC, Red, A/C, CD, Air Bags, Elec Windows, 43000 Miles.....	£21.....£4499
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04 04	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE AUTOMATIC, Met Blue, 5 Door, A/C, CD, Alloys.....	£19.....£3999
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01 51	VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.4 AUTOMATIC, 5 Door, A/C, CD, Elec Windows, Airbag.....	£15.....£3299
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02 52	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 EXPRESSION, Silver, 5 Doors, CD, Airbags.....	£14.....£2999
01 Y	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0GTI 115, 3 Door, Blue, A/C, CD, Alloys, 66000 Miles, 2 Owners.....	£14.....£2999
01 Y	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 GLX, Green, 5 Door, A/C, CD, Only 1 Owner.....	£13.....£2699
03 03	FIAT PUNTO 1.25 ACTIVE SPORT, 3 Door, Blue, A/C, CD, Elec Windows.....	£13.....£2699
01 51	MG ZS 2.5, Blue, 4 Door, A/C, CD, Alloys, Rear Spoiler, Airbag, Elec Windows.....	£12.....£2499
01 51	FORD FIESTA 1.3 FLIGHT, Red, 3 Door, PAS, Alloys, Ideal Forst Car, 1 Owner.....	£11.....£2399
01 51	SKODA OCTAVIA 1.6 AMBIENTE, Silver, 5 Doors, Elec Windows, Airbags.....	£11.....£2299
03 03	FIAT PUNTO 1.25 ACTIVE 3 DOOR, Silver, Elec Windows, PAS, Ideal First Car.....	£11.....£2299
02 02	VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.2 SRI 150, 4 Door, Blue, A/C, 1/2 Leather, CD, Alloys.....	£9.....£1999

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02 02	ROVER 25 1.4 3 DOOR, Green, Elec Windows, Power Steering.....	£1999
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95 M	HONDA 2.2 AUTO SHUTTLE 7 SEAT, Blue, CD, Great Family Car.....	£1299
01 Y	NISSAN ALMERA AUTO, Silver, 5 Door, A/C, CD.....	£1299
01 Y	ROVER 75 TOURING 2.0, Red, A/C, Alloys, Elec Windows, Air Bags.....	£1299
97 P	SUZUKI VITARA 2.0 V6, Blue / Silver, 5 Door, Manual, Elec Windows.....	£1299
00 W	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF TDI ESTATE, Green, Alloys, Long Mot.....	£1299
01 51	CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 LX, Green, A/C, CD, PAS, Electric Windows.....	£999
97 R	MERCEDES BENZ E280 AUTO, Gold, Black Leather, A/C, Future Classic!.....	£999
98 R	BMW 318 I AUTO, Green, Full Leather, A/C, CD, Alloys, Nice Condition.....	£799
99 P	SEAT ALHAMBRA 7SEAT 2.0, Blue, Elec Windows, New Mot.....	£699
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SWB CAMPERVAN**



Blue, 2004, 1997cc,  
Diesel, AirCon, CD,  
C/RL, Full SH, V G  
Condition and great  
bodywork, fantastic  
spacious family car.  
64100 miles

01993850009

**£3,195**

**£1,895**

**CITROEN C5**

52 plate, one  
owner, 79,000  
miles, mechan-  
ically sound but  
bodywork needs  
attention, tax  
and MOT until  
end of May

Tel: 01225 862213

**£650**

**FIAT**

**FIAT 1.4 DOBLO  
WAV**

Oct 2008, Petrol,  
Manual, A/C, Alloys,  
AM/FM/CD, Tax &  
MOT Nov 2012,  
Fogs, Wheelchair  
Accessible Ramped,  
Gowrings Restraint  
System,  
Sparewheel, 16,700  
miles

01235223581

**£6,250**

**£6,250**

**£4,650**

**£700**

CITROEN

**FIAT PUNTO  
ACTIVE 1.2**



5 door, 2003,  
under 47000 miles,  
dark metallic grey,  
5 speed, service  
history, lovely  
condition inside &  
out, tax until May,  
MOT until Nov

07427 633011

**£1,895**

**£1,995**

FORD KA

**FORD KA**

2005 (05), navy  
blue, 1297cc,  
petrol, PAS,  
ABS, 24000  
miles, MOT  
01/07/12, tax  
01/05/12.

01380 723539

**£1,995**

Honda Civic

**HONDA CRV**

1.6i Auto, 5  
door hatchback  
1996, only  
84,000 miles,  
Mot June, Tax  
Aug black,

01295 273986

**£500**

**£580**

Honda

**FORD FIESTA**

1.3 Petrol. Blue.  
1999 (V Reg).  
90,000 miles.  
Part S/Hist.  
5 months MOT.  
5 months Tax.

Tel: 07717 076331  
01793 324495

**£425**

**£1,800**

**JAGUAR X-TYPE  
2.2 S D**

2.0 litre petrol,  
automatic, blue  
colour, good  
reliable runner,  
spacious  
estate, spare  
wheel on back  
with Honda  
cover, cd player  
/radio, full  
service history,  
82000 miles

01225 751570

**£3,900**

**£1,800**

**JAGUAR X-TYPE  
2.2 S D**

Green, 2000,  
1850cc, auto, petrol,  
air con, alarm,  
alloys, C/RL, s/roof,  
FSH, MOT June  
2012, tax April 2012,  
good cond, very  
reliable, reluctant  
sale, 82000 miles

01225 790323

**£5,250**

**£5,250**

**LANDROVER  
DISCOVERY**

Grey, 2006, 2198cc,  
turbo diesel, alarm,  
alloys, CD, C/RL,  
full service history,  
manual six speed  
gearbox, MOT,  
good condition

07590 998907

**£1,150**

**£1,150**

**LANDROVER  
DISCOVERY**

200 tdi, 12 months  
mot, taxed end of  
april, good condition  
well looked after, 5  
good tyres, CD, cl,  
ew, 18,1000 miles

07871224909

**£1,150**

Land Rover

**LAND ROVER  
FREELANDER**

1.8, petrol,  
04 plate,  
53,100 miles,  
MOT and Tax

Tel: 07879 414339

**£3,900**

**£3,900**

**NISSAN PRIMERA**

5 door  
hatchback.  
Automatic,  
1999, 2000 cc,  
petrol, 60,000  
miles, very  
good  
mechanical  
condition.

01225 742217

**£500 ono**

**£500 ono**

**RENAULT MEGANE**

1. 6 RT,  
automatic,  
taxed till end  
May, mot  
December,  
colour blue  
1997 petrol  
117000 miles

01235523689

**£500**

**£500**

**RENAULT MEGANE**

24/7

www.banburycake.co.uk

**£500**

## MOTORS

Renault

RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC RX4



Well loved family car, MOT until April 2003, spacious, versatile, new cambelt, petrol, in good running order, 95000 miles

07824 355992

£950

Rover

ROVER 75

1.8 T Club, 6 months Tax, 1 years Mot, FSH, Silver, Petrol, Manual, A/C, Airbag, Alarm, ABS, CD, E/W,

01865 721843  
01865 728693

1200

£

Saab

SAAB 9-3 SE CONVERTIBLE

2000 (W) blue, grey leather interior, FSH 12 months MOT, 6 months tax, new battery and rear discs, poor hood, tyres VGC, 71,000 miles

01993 891871

£1,725

SKODA

SKODA FABIA



02 Fabia Comfort, 1.9TDi, Reliable, FSH, 50mpg+, Clean, Tidy, AirCon, CD, C/RL, Fog, ABS, e/w, PAS, 6 Months Tax/Mot, Recent Service

07870 219962

£2,250

Toyota

TOYOTA PICNIC

Green, 2001, 1998cc, petrol, auto, air con, alarm, C/RL, 6 seater, FSH, good condition, 2 owners with same one for last 10 years, excellent family car

07952 617655

£995

VOLKSWAGEN

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.4S



silver, alloy wheels mileage 117000, feb02 reg 51 plate, a/c, e/w, e/m, pas. cd player reliable car, only selling as have new car, 117,000 miles

07823 334154

£1,395

Volvo

VOLVO V50 SED

5 door estate, diesel, manual, grey, 2005, leather seats, winter pack, FSH, MOT, taxed, excellent condition, 41500 miles

01380 818666

£6,550

YOUR CAR  
WILL BE  
SEEN BY  
OVER  
**144,871**  
Local readers

01295 256111

Motors  
Wanted

CASH  
WAITING  
FOR CARS/VANS &  
MOTORHOMES  
with or  
without MOT'S  
TEL: 07963 777762

**Advertise  
Online  
24/7**



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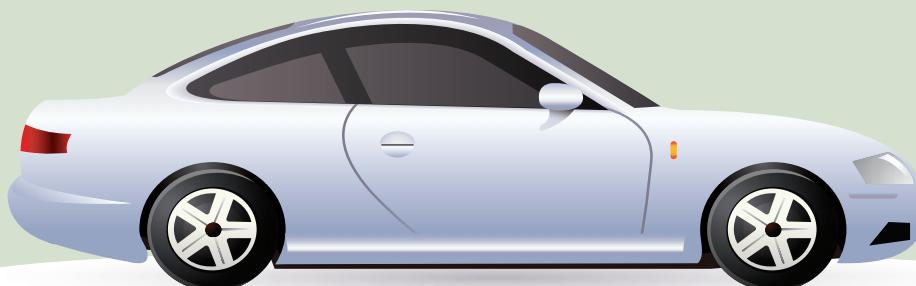
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24/7**

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EXAMPLE OF ADVERT

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LIMITED EDITION

5 Door Manual, Petrol, 70,000 miles, met black, FSH, alloys, CD, Ltd ed, Long MOT, electric windows, central locking  
**01865 420420**

**£6,999**NB: PRIVATE  
ADVERTISERS ONLY

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OF QUALITY EXCURSIONS  
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

BANBURY'S VERY OWN COACH TOUR OPERATOR & TICKET SPECIALIST

BOOK BY PHONE FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME



APRIL '12

## IDEAL HOME SHOW 2012

AWARD WINNING SHOW  
WITH HUNDREDS OF EXHIBITORS  
EARLS COURT, LONDON

Sunday 1st April *Code: CE*  
ONLY £32.50

## TOURING LONDON'S OLYMPIC SITES 2012

SEE THE OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC PARK AREA WITH A  
BLUE BADGE GUIDE *Code: C* ONLY £29.50

## THE WIZARD OF OZ ADULTS ONLY

(Matinee) Inc. 2 COURSE CARVERY  
STRAND PALACE HOTEL & LONDON PALLADIUM  
Wednesday 9th May *Code: CEL* £59.50

## THE THAMES DIAMOND JUBILEE PAGEANT, LONDON

LARGEST FLOTILLA OF UP TO 1000 BOATS EVER ASSEMBLED  
ON THE RIVER THAMES Sunday 3rd June *Code: C* £19.50

## LLANGOLLEN STEAM RAILWAY

ENJOY A STEAM TRAIN JOURNEY FROM LLANGOLLEN TO  
CARROG (RETURN) THROUGH THE PICTURESQUE DEE VALLEY  
Saturday 9th June *Code: CT* Adult: £32.50 Child: £29.50

## WEYMOUTH

AWARD WINNING BEACH AND  
PICTURESQUE HARBOUR

Sunday 1st July *Code: C* Adult: £26.00 Child/OAP: £25.00

## GREAT YARMOUTH

NORFOLK'S PREMIER BEACH RESORT  
WITH WONDERFUL GOLDEN SANDS

Sunday 15th July *Code: C* Adult: £27.00 Child/OAP: £26.00

## BRIGHTON

STYLISH SEASIDE RESORT  
WITH IMPRESSIVE ROYAL PAVILION

Sunday 5th August *Code: C* Adult: £26.00 Child/OAP: £25.00

## STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

& RIVER CRUISE - TRANQUIL WAY  
TO DISCOVER SHAKESPEARE COUNTRY

Sunday 19th August *Code: CC* Adult: £17.50 Child/OAP: £15.00

## BOURNEMOUTH AIR FESTIVAL

INCREDIBLE AIR DISPLAYS AND  
ATTRACTIIONS SET AGAINST THE  
BACKDROP OF SEVEN MILES OF BEACHES

Sunday 2nd September *Code: C*  
Adult: £26.00 Child/OAP: £25.00

## HIGHCLERE CASTLE & EGYPTIAN EXHIBITION

FILM LOCATION FOR POPULAR TV PROGRAMME  
'DOWNTON ABBEY' ONE OF ENGLAND'S MOST  
IMPORTANT VICTORIAN CASTLES SET IN  
SPECTACULAR PARKLAND

Tuesday 3rd April *Code: CE*  
Adult: £36.50 Seniors: £34.50

## MALVERN SPRING GARDENING SHOW

MAGNIFICENT FLORAL DISPLAYS AND WALK  
THROUGH GARDENS Sunday 13th May  
*Code: CE* £34.50

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE & WARWICKSHIRE RAILWAY

STEAM TRAIN FROM CHELTENHAM RACE COURSE TO  
WINCHCOMBE - 14 MILE TRIP WITH SPECTACULAR VIEWS  
Sunday 13th May *Code: CT* Adult: £25.00 Child: £20.00

## WESTON-SUPER-MARE

TRADITIONAL RESORT WITH A SPACIOUS, LEVEL  
PROMENADE. THE GRAND PIER HAS MUCH TO OFFER  
Wednesday 6th June *Code: C* **SPRING BANK HOLIDAY**  
Adult: £22.00 Child/OAP: £21.00

## LEEDS CASTLE, KENT

PROMOTED AS THE LOVELIEST CASTLE IN THE WORLD  
LEEDS CASTLE IS IN A SUPERB MOATED POSITION IN A

MAGNIFICENT 500 ACRE PARK Sunday 17th June  
*Code: CE* Adult: £35.00 Child: £32.00

## HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW

SET IN THE SPECTACULAR GROUNDS OF  
HAMPTON COURT PALACE

Sunday 8th July *Code: CE* £49.50

## MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL CRUISE

A MEMORABLE JOURNEY ALONG THE 35 MILE STRETCH OF  
CANAL - SIX HOUR CRUISE WITH SPECTACULAR SCENERY

Saturday 21st July *Code: CC* £54.50

## OXFORD TO ABINGDON THAMES CRUISE

- RELAX & ENJOY THE  
SCENERY AS YOU CRUISE DOWN THE RIVER

Tuesday 7th August *Code: CC* Adult: £24.50 Child/OAP: £22.50

## HARRY POTTER - WARNER BROTHERS STUDIO TOUR, LONDON

AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE BEHIND  
THE SCENES MAGIC OF HARRY POTTER FILMS

Sunday 19th August *Code: CE* Adult: £49.50 Child: £42.50

## CAMDEN MARKET LONDON

- LARGEST STREET MARKET IN THE UK

Saturday 11th August *Code: C* £19.50

## HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT & THAMES LUNCH CRUISE

AN INTRIGUING & MEMORABLE DAY OUT

Thursday 23rd August *Code: CEL* £59.50

## BUCKINGHAM PALACE STATE ROOMS

(Inc. 2 COURSE CARVERY MEAL)

THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE

OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Sunday 9th September *Code: CEL*  
Adult: £49.50 Child/OAP: £48.00

## COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK & GARDENS

SET IN THE GROUNDS OF A 19TH CENTURY  
MANOR HOUSE WITH A MAIN FEATURE 5 ACRE  
AFRICAN EXHIBIT, WHERE ZEBRAS AND WHITE  
RHINO GRAZE PEACEFULLY

Tuesday 10th April *Code: CE*  
Adult: £24.50 Child/OAP: £21.50

EASTER  
SCHOOL  
HOLIDAYS

## LONDON MUSEUMS 3 GREAT VENUES

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM,  
SCIENCE MUSEUM AND THE  
VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUMS

Thursday 12th April *Code: CE*  
ONLY £19.50

EASTER  
SCHOOL  
HOLIDAYS

## WINDSOR CASTLE

THE LARGEST & OLDEST OCCUPIED CASTLE IN THE WORLD, IS ONE  
OF THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCES OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN!

Saturday 26th May *Code: CE*  
Adult: £34.50 Child/OAP: £33.50 Child: £28.50

## THE WIZARD OF OZ WORLD FAMOUS LONDON PALLADIUM (Matinee)

Sunday 27th May *Code: CE* ONLY £49.50 (Face Value of Ticket is £65)

WEST END  
SUNDAY  
SPECIAL!

## BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER

VENICE OF THE COTSWOLDS - VOTED ONE  
OF THE PRETTIEST VILLAGES IN ENGLAND

Friday 8th June *Code: C*  
Adult: £17.50 Child/OAP: £16.00

SPRING BANK  
HOLIDAY

## TWYCROSS ZOO, LEICESTERSHIRE

HOME TO ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTIONS OF  
PRIMATE SPECIES. THE ONLY ZOO IN THE UK TO CATER FOR ALL  
FOUR SPECIES OF GREAT APE

Sunday 24th June *Code: CE* Adult: £32.50 Child: £29.50

## FARNBOROUGH INTERNATIONAL AIR SHOW

- HISTORY & COMMEMORATION  
OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN AVIATION

Saturday 14th July *Code: CE* £54.50

## BOURNEMOUTH

ONE OF THE SOUTH COAST'S MOST POPULAR SEASIDE  
RESORTS WITH AWARD WINNING PARKS & GARDENS

Sunday 29th July *Code: C* Adult: £26.00 Child/OAP: £25.00

## SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

'A GLORIOUS FEELING, HAPPY AGAIN'  
PALACE THEATRE, LONDON

Saturday 18th August (Matinee) *Code: C* ONLY £57.50

## SHREK THE MUSICAL

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE  
LONDON

Sunday 26th August (Matinee) *Code: CE* ONLY £47.50

School Holiday Special

AUGUST '12

## WESTON-SUPER-MARE

SITUATED ON THE BRISTOL CHANNEL -

A TRADITIONAL RESORT WITH A LEVEL PROMENADE

Sunday 22nd July *Code: C* Adult: £25.00 Child/OAP: £24.00

## SOUTHPORT, MERSEYSIDE

AWARD WINNING PROMENADE - TRADITIONAL

PIER AND TREE LINED BOULEVARD

Sunday 12th August *Code: C* Adult: £26.00 Child/OAP: £25.00

## IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

LONDON - AWARD WINNING MUSEUM

TELLS THE STORY OF 20TH CENTURY CONFLICTS

ON THE HOME FRONT AND FRONT LINE

Saturday 25th August *Code: CE* £19.50

## HISTORIC BATH

A UNIQUE DESTINATION BUILT BY THE

ROMANS 2000 YEARS AGO!

SUPERB LANDSCAPE &

ARCHITECTURE

Sunday 16th September *Code: C*  
Adult: £23.00 Child/OAP: £22.00

## MALVERN AUTUMN GARDENING SHOW

A SHOW FOR FOOD

AND GARDENING LOVERS,

SET IN A LOVELY LOCATION

Sunday 30th September *Code: CE*  
ONLY £34.50

**KEY: C = COACH ONLY CE = COACH & ENTRANCE CT = COACH & TRAIN FARE CC = COACH & CRUISE CEL = COACH, ENTRANCE & LUNCH**

**Pick-Up Points: Brackley - Market Place  
Banbury - Bus Station Middleton Cheney - The Library**

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